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#### REMARKS

Receipt of the Office Action mailed August 27, 2003, which action was made final, is respectfully acknowledged. Claims 2-4, 6-12, 16-60, 67-70, 74-94, 101-104 and 108-128 remain in the application. Claims 1, 5, 13-15, 61-66, 71-73, 95-100 and 105-107 are cancelled herein. Claims 9-12, 21-24, 29, 67-70, 80, 82, 83, 101-104, 114, 116 and 117 have previously been allowed. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.116, request is hereby made to amend the following claims as set forth above to place this case in better condition for allowance: 2, 4, 6, 7, 16-20, 25, 30, 37, 57-60, 74-76, 81, 84, 85, 108-110, 115, 118 and 119. As explained below, these amendments change the dependencies of various dependent claims such that the claims will depend from previous allowed independent claims. In addition, the following claims previously withdrawn from consideration are now submitted to be allowable for the reasons set forth below because their dependencies have been changed to depend from previously allowed independent claims: 6, 16, 17, 19, 20, 31-36, 39, 41-44, 47-56, 74, 75, 81, 87, 88, 90, 93, 94, 108, 109, 115, 121-124, 127 and 128.

#### The Claims Rejected Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Many of the claims as originally filed as set forth in paragraph three of the Office Action were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over various prior art references. Those rejections are respectfully traversed. However, in order to advance prosecution of this application, claims 1, 5, 13-15, 61-66, 71-73, 95-100, and 105-107 have been cancelled without prejudice to Applicants' right to pursue those claims in a continuing application.

#### The Claims Previously Allowed

Claims 9-12, 21-24, 29, 67-70, 80, 82, 83, 101-104, 114, 116 and 117 were previously allowed as indicated in paragraph four of the Office Action. Of these, claims 9, 21, 29, 67, 80, 82, 101, 114 and 116 are independent. As set forth below, many of the previously rejected or withdrawn dependent claims have been amended to depend from these

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allowed independent claims such that it is respectfully submitted that the indicated amended or previously withdrawn dependent claims are now allowable along with the above-indicated previously allowed claims.

#### The Currently Amended and Previously Withdrawn Claims

As referenced above, claims 2-4, 6-8, 25-28 and 30-60 have been amended to depend from allowed claim 21. In addition, claims 16-20 have been amended to depend from allowed claim 9. Of these, claims 6, 16, 17, 19, 20, 31-36, 39, 41-44 and 47-56 were previously withdrawn as being directed to non-elected species. However, because these claims have all been amended to depend, or ultimately depend, from an allowed independent claim, and in keeping with paragraph three of the Office Action mailed February 20, 2003, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are in condition for allowance and are entitled to consideration since they now all depend from an allowable generic claim.

Similarly, claims 74, 75 and 81 have been amended to depend from allowed independent claim 67. Further, claims 76-79 and 84-94 have been amended to depend from allowed independent claim 82. Of these, claims 74, 75, 81, 87, 89, 90, 93 and 94 were previously withdrawn from consideration as being directed to non-elected species. For reasons similar to those set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that each of these claims now depends from an allowed independent claim which is generic thereto and that these claims are likewise in condition for allowance.

Further, claims 108 and 109 have been amended to depend from allowed independent claim 101. Also, claims 110-113, 115 and 118-128 have been amended to depend from allowed independent claim 116. Of these, claims 108, 109, 115, 121-124, 127 and 128 were previously withdrawn from consideration as being directed to non-elected species. Because each of these claims now depends or ultimately depends from an allowed independent claim which is generic to the species set forth therein, and for the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that these dependent claims are likewise now in condition for allowance with the previously allowed claims.

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Accordingly, since all claims which do not now ultimately depend from the previously allowed independent claim have been cancelled without prejudice to Applicants' right to pursue same in a continuing application, it is respectfully submitted that the remaining claims 2-4, 6-12, 16-60, 67-70, 74-94, 101-104 and 108-128 are now in a condition for allowance and a notice of allowance therefor is respectfully requested. In addition, entry of the replacement drawing sheet, including the approved amendments to drawing FIG. 4, is also requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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